

## MORE THAN 25,000 COLORADANS ON TRACK TO GAIN COVERAGE UNDER MEDICAID EXPANSION

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DENVER – October 24, 2013 – Of the more than 160,000 Coloradans that are expected to enroll as part of the Medicaid expansion, 25,709 are already on track to be enrolled when the new coverage begins on January 1, 2014 according to new numbers <u>posted</u> today by the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing.

"In Colorado, we are finding the uninsured and doing so quickly," said Susan E. Birch MBA, BSN, RN, executive director. "Getting coverage is the first step to improving overall health. We are pleased with the number of applications we are getting but still have a lot of work to do to reach individuals who could be eligible for coverage."

The number posted today covers applications that have been processed by October 22, 2013 and includes more than 9,000 individuals who are on a waitlist for the Adults without Dependent Children program. That program currently has an enrollment cap and covers Coloradans earning approximately \$95 a month or less. These individuals will be enrolled as part of the Medicaid expansion for coverage that begins in January.

The Coloradans who appear to be newly eligible for Medicaid cannot be enrolled yet but are receiving notices informing them of the new coverage levels. These individuals do not need to reapply as they are on track to be automatically enrolled unless their situation changes, such as their income increases. The Department will start sending out enrollment information to those who qualify for the expansion in early December. Those who have questions about their application should contact Medicaid's customer service line at 1-800-221-3943.

For general information about the new health law changes visit <u>Colorado.gov/health</u>. For more information about Medicaid benefits visit <u>Colorado.gov/hcpf</u>. To apply online go to <u>Colorado.gov/PEAK</u>.

**About the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing**: The department administers the Medicaid and Child Health Plan *Plus* programs as well as a variety of other programs for low-income Coloradans, families, children, pregnant women, the elderly and people with disabilities. The mission of the department is to improve health care access and outcomes for the people we serve while demonstrating sound stewardship of financial resources. For more information about the department, please visit <a href="Colorado.gov/hcpf">Colorado.gov/hcpf</a>.